

Verner News

ISSUE 1

October 2015

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL MRS. MARY ANN PLANCE

Dear Verner Parents/Guardians

The 2015-2016 school year is off to a great start. We are beginning our second month of school and we are very pleased with the smooth beginning to what promises to be a successful and exciting school year. The parents and Verner staff are to be commended for the hard work and attention to detail that resulted in a tremendously smooth opening of school this year. It is always fascinating to see schools transform from nearly empty buildings one day, to centers of learning full of excited young people and adults the next. Our goal was to immediately establish a school and classroom environment where pupils feel safe and can comfortably think and learn at high levels.

By now, all the pupils are familiar with the daily schedule and their new teachers. At this time, I would like to stress the importance of attendance and students being on time for school.

Research shows that students who attend school with very few absences or tardies learn more. A child who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of instruction during the school year. Any child can be at academic risk if he or she misses 10% or 18 days of the school year.

Families can make a difference in improving attendance:

Families should avoid extended vacations that require children to miss school. Try to line up vacations with the school's schedule. The same goes for doctor's appointments.

Attendance matters as early as kindergarten. Studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of the third grade.

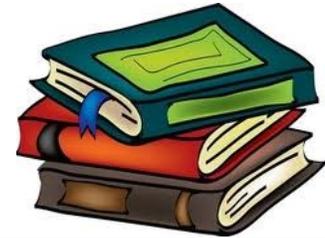
For older children, you can help set homework and bedtime routines that allow for 8-9 hours of sleep. Make sure that when lights go out, so do the cell phones, video games and televisions.

Get to know the teachers and principals. Communication with teachers will help you stay on top of academic progress to make sure your child is staying on track.

You can turn to the school for help. Verner Elementary can give you a list of services for the whole family.

I believe as a team, we can increase student attendance, which in turn will increase student achievement. Attendance incentives will be awarded to students who have good attendance during the 2015-2016 school year.

Have a Happy and Safe Halloween!
Mrs. Plance



Verner

Scholastic Book Fair

October 5-7

During school hours

October 7

During Fall Open House

6:00-7:30pm

Or visit the Book Fair online at
<http://bookfairsscholastic.com/homepage/Verner>

Our Online Fair is available
from October 5th-25th.

SWPBIS

Verner Elementary will continue to implement SWPBIS (School Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) this year. We will continue to recognize students who are ready, respectful and responsible in a positive way. Our efforts this year are going to focus on family and community involvement. Please keep an eye out for information pertaining to this.



Dates to Remember

October 1 and 2

5th grade Environmental Field Trip to Lutherlyn

October 1

VPTO Meeting at 6:30pm

October 5-7

Scholastic Book Fair

October 6

3rd Grade Field Trip to Kerr Museum

October 7

Elementary Open House — 6:00pm -7:30pm

October 12

Professional Development Day — No school for students

October 20

4th Grade Field Trip to Plum Creek

October 28

Verner Halloween Safety Assembly

October 29

End of First Grading Period

POP UP Library

For Verona Residents

Tuesday & Thursday

6:00-8:00pm

located in the Verner
Elementary Library.

Due to the Scholastic
Book Fair there will be
no "POP-UP Library at
Verner on October 6th.

Student Council

Congratulations to our new Verner Elementary Student Council members! We have 18 new Student Council Members ready and willing to serve their school and community!

Look out for our Mini-Art Show! Mrs. Gearhart will be featuring art from each one of our students for the Mini-Art Show! This show will be during Open House on October 7th from 6:00 - 7:00pm. We hope to see you there!!

SUPPORT THE PITTSBURGH PIRATES

Wear Your Pirate Gear
Wednesday, October 7th

